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CONFIDENTIAL

REPORT NO. [redacted]

COUNTRY Poland

[redacted]
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DATE DISTR. 22 Dec. 1953

SUBJECT Polish Air Force Uniforms

NO. OF PAGES 7

REFERENCES:

[redacted]
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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION
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Description of Uniforms

1. [redacted] no information on special officer or EM dress uniforms for the Polish Air Force. During inspections the men wore the new uniforms that they were issued.
2. The summer and winter uniforms are described in paragraph 2. These uniforms were issued seasonally.
3. [redacted]
4. [redacted] on one occasion, a female AF captain in Wroclaw N 51-06, E 17-02/, but could not give any uniform details other than that she was wearing a light blue uniform blouse, cap, and skirt. He thought that she wore black shoes. He did not remember the color of the shirt or tie. [redacted] no other information on women in the service in the Polish Armed Forces.
5. [redacted]
6. Officers and career NCO's of the Polish Air Force were issued the same type of clothing. There were two career NCO's in the 12th Squadron and they wore the same type and quality clothing as the officers.

Clothing Issue

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1. [redacted]

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a. Uniform Clothing:

<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Material</u>	<u>Season</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
1	Blouse	Wool	Winter	OD green, four pockets (two breast, two side), five or six silver buttons, and one for each pocket. The pockets were on the outside.
1 pr	Trousers	Wool	Winter	OD green, two side pockets, no seam stripe for EM, bottom trousers pull together and fasten with snap or button.
1	Overcoat	Wool	Winter/Summer	OD green, stand up collar, two rows of six buttons down the front (silver), two side pockets.
1	Shirt	White Cotton	Winter/Summer	No collar, pullover type, with four or five buttons that button half way down the front. Exchanged every week for clean set.

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b. Headgear:

Helmets were not issued to any personnel

<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Material</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
1	Field cap (rogatowka)	Wool	Winter wear, OD green, four corner.
	Garrison cap	Wool	Winter, OD green with blue braid.

c. Footwear

<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Material</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
1 pr	Service shoes	Leather	Unfinished, brown color when issued, dyed black by individual. These were to last one year, but due to shortage, no definite time limit set for wear.
1 pr	Leggings	Wool	OD green, worn with full length trousers, two vertical rows of buttons, three to a row.

d. Accessories

<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Material</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
1	Belt	Leather	Unfinished leather, brown, for trousers only.
1	Belt	Leather	Tan, worn on outside of blouse.
1 pr	Gloves	Wool	Five finger, dress wear only, winter.
1 pr	Foot Wraps	Wool/Cotton	OD green, exchanged every week for clean set. Wool worn in winter, cotton in summer.

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<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Material</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
2 prs	Drawers	Cotton	White, winter-summer.
2 prs	Undershirts	Cotton	White, winter-summer, usually none worn in summer.
1	Towel	Unknown	White
2	Collars	Cotton	White, sewn to shirt, detached when shirt was sent to be cleaned.
2	Handkerchiefs	Cotton	None
1	Canvas Shelter half	Waterproof cloth	OD green. Used as rain cape and for pup tent construction.

e. Individual Equipment

<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Material</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
1	Gas mask	Unknown	Shlem type.
1	Knapsack	Unknown	OD green, used to carry equipment.
2	Blankets	Wool	Green
2	Sheets	Linen	White
1	Pillow case	Linen	White
1	Mattress cover	Cotton cloth	Filled with hay or straw to make a mattress.

2. Uniforms and clothing issued to [redacted] the 12th Squadron^{50X1}_{50X1}

a. Uniform clothing (winter issued, [redacted]) (summer issued, [redacted])^{50X1}

<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Material</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
2	Blouses	Wool - winter Twill - summer	OD green, four pockets, two on breast, two on side, with five or six silver buttons in center and one for each pocket. One of these was a used blouse and one was new.
2 pr	Trousers	Wool - winter Twill - summer	OD green, two side pockets only, no stripe along seam for EM. Bottoms were pulled together and fastened with one button. One pair of trousers was used, the other pair was new.
	Overcoat	Wool	Overcoat was issued for a three-year period.
	Shirts	Cotton	White, no collar, pullover type that buttoned half way down with four or five buttons. Exchanged every week.

b. Headgear

<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Material</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
	Service cap	Gabardine	Cap worn summer or winter. OD green with black hard paper material visor. Blue crown piping. Blue hat band. Large silver uncrowned Polish eagle in center.

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<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Material</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
2	Garrison caps	Twill	Issued for one year, OD green.
1	Work cap	Wool, lining	Issued as part of winter work uniform. Lined with a fur type material, ear-flaps that folded over the top of hat. Adjustable visor. See Enclosure A.

c. Footwear

<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Material</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
1 pr	Service shoes	Leather	Same ones that were issued at school
1 pr	Work boots	Leather, felt	Issued as part of winter work uniform and worn only with work uniform. See Enclosure A.
1 pr	Work shoes	Cloth/rubber soles	Gray color, cloth with rubber sole shoes, used for work on wings and inside aircraft. These were issued because the service shoe damaged paint on aircraft.

d. Accessories

<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Material</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
1	Work uniform one-piece	Wool/cotton quilted liner	Iron gray, with eight plain silver colored buttons. Used only while participating in work. Was not turned in for cleaning until seasonal exchange. Pulled together at waist with draw string. See Enclosure A.
1	Belt	Leather	Tan; worn with trousers only.
1	Belt	Finished leather	Tan, Sam Browne, worn on outside of blouse or overcoat.
1 pr	Gloves	Wool	Five finger, dress.
1 pr	Gloves	Wool/lining	Issued as a part of work uniform. Two finger, covered with coarse broadcloth. Iron gray color.
2 pr	Foot Wraps	Wool	OD green, exchanged every week.

e. Individual equipment

<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Material</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
1	Gas mask	Unknown	Shlem type, model unknown.
2	Blankets	Wool	OD green
2	Sheets	Linen	Exchanged every 10 days.
1	Pillow case	Linen	Exchanged every 10 days.
1	Mattress cover	Cotton cloth	Filled with straw and used as a mattress.

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Additional Information on Uniforms and Equipment

1. [] no information on materials, weights, design, or construction details, or on regulations, other than given above and in Enclosures A and B.
2. Since the fall of 1951, the Air Force had been in the process of changing the color of the uniform for officers and EM to OD green. The color denoting Air Force was still blue, and appeared on hat bands, piping, and tabs. Sources A and B had no definite information as to the colors denoting the various branches of service in the Army.
3. [] stated that they were never told what the initial issue of clothing should consist of. EM and officers received one complete uniform that was almost not combat serviceable. This uniform was issued as a work uniform, and was worn only on details. Exchange of unserviceable clothing was impossible. The only time clothing was exchanged was during seasonal changes. Each individual was responsible for his own clothing. No repairs could be made, and alterations were forbidden, although exchanges for proper sizes occurred often between individuals.
4. [] no information on clothing sizes. They stated that all clothing, including shoes, was issued on a piece-per-man basis, regardless of size.

Description of Insignia and Buttons

1. [] some changes in the officers' service cap. See Enclosure B.
2. There were no special colors to denote branches of service in the Air Force.
3. Officers in the Air Force wore buttons of gold color, metallic, with an uncrowned Polish eagle impressed on them. EM buttons were silver-colored.
4. In 1953, in the Air Force, money or extra pass privileges were given instead of medals for proficiency. No further details.

Changes in Uniform

Only in rare cases did an Air Force inductee or volunteer receive the blue uniform for initial issue. The uniform issued was the same as that of the ground forces, except for the color of the braid, which was blue.

Shortages

[] stated that there did not seem to be any shortage in quantity of clothing and equipment, except shoes, which were hard to replace. In many cases a pair of shoes that should last only one year was never replaced when worn out. No other details.

Wearing of Uniforms by Civilians

[] stated that when an airman was released from the service, all his clothing and equipment was turned in. If he did not wish to purchase civilian clothing in which to go home, he usually wrote home and had a suit sent to him. The only military clothing that was worn by civilians was pre-World War II Polish Army, and German Army clothing.

ENCLOSURES:

- A. Air Force Winter Work Uniform with Boots and Cap
- B. Air Force Officers' Service Cap

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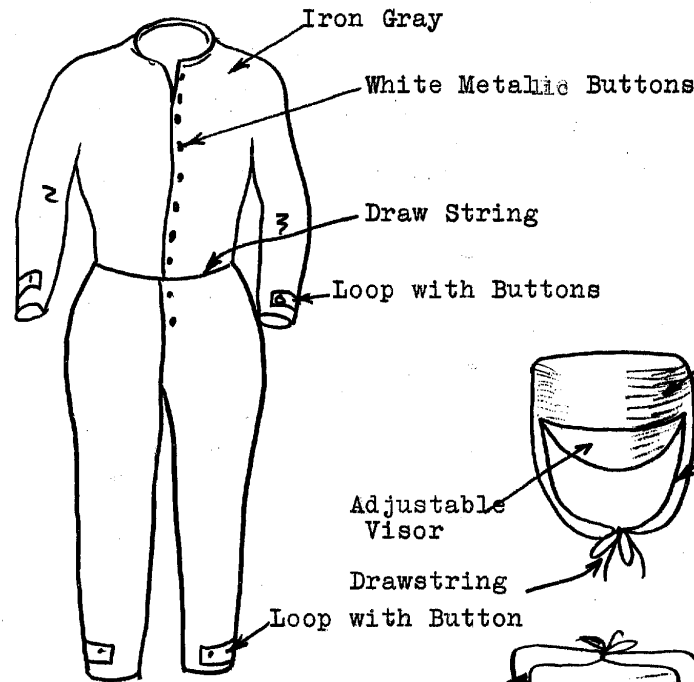


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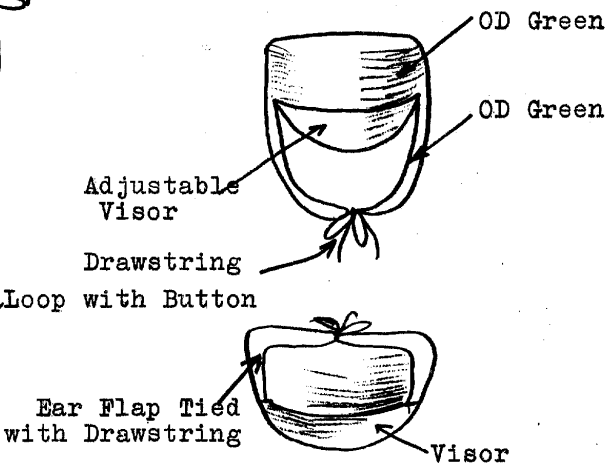
Enclosure A

Air Force Winter Work Uniform with Boots and Cap

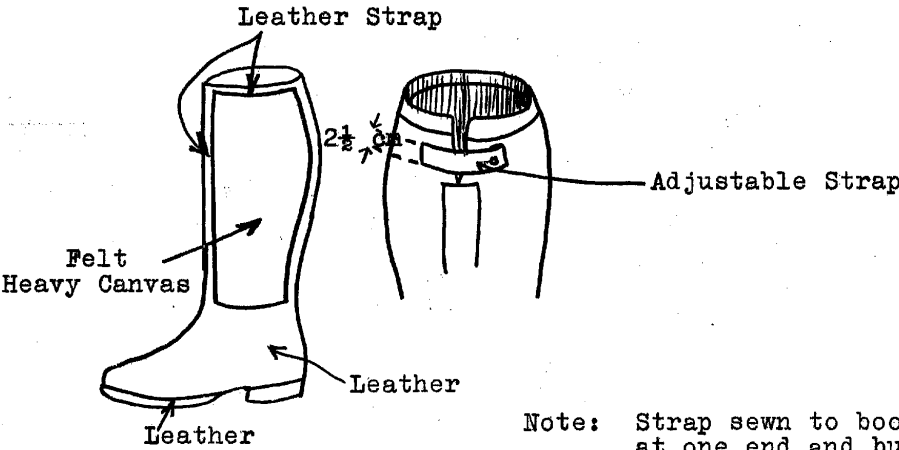
Suit



Cap



Boots



Note: Strap sewn to boot at one end and buttoned at the other. Slit seven centimeters long.

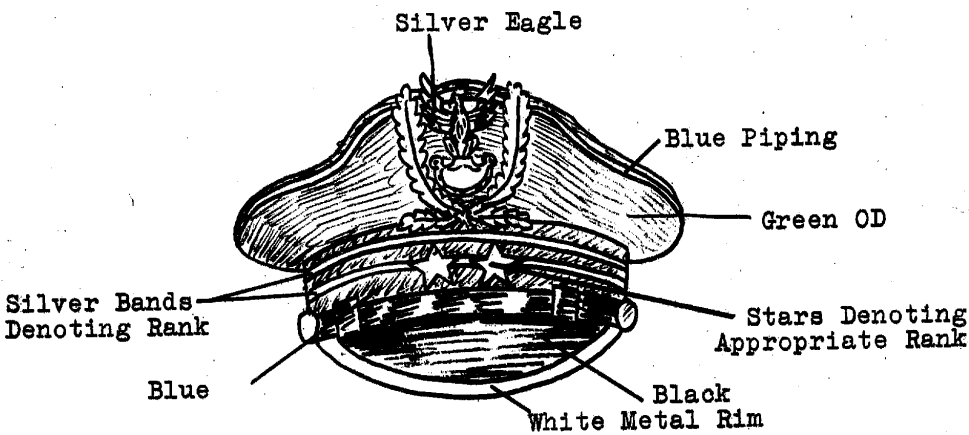
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Enclosure B
Air Force Officers' Service Cap



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